

DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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alter H. Boyd, Press Officer m. Drew Dearnaley, Assistant Press Officer Telephone: (212) 867-8400

81081 March 12, 1981

ANGLICAN LEADERS TO MEET AT WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL

WASHINGTON -- Washington Cathedral will be the site of an historic meeting from April 26 through May 2. The primates of the Anglican Communion, headed by the Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Robert A. K. Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, will meet at the College of Preachers on the cathedral grounds. The Anglican Communion is a loosely knit association of Anglicans/Episcopalians in every continent in the world.

The meeting marks the first time that this august body has ever convened outside of England. The twenty-eight heads of the churches, which number a total of close to 64 million members, are coming to the United States at the invitation of their brother bishop, the Rt. Rev. John Maury Allin, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church (United States).

Archbishop Runcie will open the meeting with a festival evensong at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 26 at which he will be the preacher. All of the prelates will attend. Archbishop Runcie will also preach at the 11 a.m. service in the cathedral that morning.

On Friday, May 1, the Archbishop of Central Africa, the Most. Rev. Khotso Makhulu, will preach at a festival evensong in the cathedral. At this service the diplomatic corps will be honored guests and there will be a reception following in the Bishops Garden.

In addition to the sermons he will preach at Washington Cathedral, Archbishop Runcie will also address the National Press Club on Tuesday, April 28 at noon. The speech will be broadcast over National Public Radio.

In cooperation with the National Council of Churches, the National Broadcasting Company is producing a special television program covering the Archbishop of Canterbury's visit to the cathedral. Produced by Patricia Mauger, who also produces the cathedral's Christmas telecast, the program will feature interviews with Archbishop Runcie and others of the prelates done by famed television commentator Edwin Newman. The program will be aired on Sunday, May 3, immediately following the meeting. (The program is scheduled for 1:00 pp.m. Eastern time, but please check your local NBC station for the time in your area.)

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Before and after the Primates' meeting, many of the primates -- including the Archbishop of Canterbury -- will visit various dioceses in the Church.

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Attachments:

- A. Background summary
- B. Facts and definitions
- C. Provinces and Primates
- D. Primates and Provinces
- E. Biography of Archbishop Runcie
- F. Archbishop Runcie's Itinerary

NOTE TO THE PRESS: The discussion sessions of the Primates are closed to the press, but a press room will be in operation at the cathedral administration building to respond to inquiries and to be the channel of information from the meeting. The Church of England press staff and the Episcopal Church Center staff will be available to assist members of the press. Press briefings will be held daily. Two direct telephone lines will be in service in the press room and the numbers will be announced as soon as they are available.

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A. Background Summary

THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

The Anglican Communion is a world wide fellowship or family of Churches (Provinces) and dioceses which trace their origins to the post-Reformation (16th century and following) expansion of the Church of England in association with other episcopal or Anglican churches of the British Isles. These Churches are in communion with each other and with the See of Canterbury and recognize the Archbishop of Canterbury as the spiritual leader and focus of unity within the Communion. The Communion upholds and propagates the apostolic and catholic faith and order of the Church, based on the Bible, sacraments, creeds and historic episcopate. This faith finds expression in the various Anglican liturgies, prayer books and ordinals (the services which only a bishop can perform).

The Anglican Communion has no central legislative body but the member-churches are bound together for common consultation in an interdependent relationship.

The growth of the Anglican Church came largely through the great missionary societies of the Church of England and subsequently through those of the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Without this missionary effort, the Anglican Communion could hardly have become worldwide in its presence as it is known today.

The Lambeth Conference

The Lambeth Conference, which has met approximately every ten years on invitation of the Archbishop of Centerbury, brings together the bishops exercising jurisdiction from member-churches of the Anglican Communion throughout the world for the purposes of taking common counsel and adopting reports and resolutions of an advisory nature for the guidance of the member-churches, provinces and dioceses. The Conference has no legislative authority for member-churches. The first Lambeth Conference was held in 1867 and the most recent one -- the eleventh -- was in 1978. The Conferences were held at Lambeth Palace -- the Archbishop of Canterbury's residence in London -- until 1978 when the bishops gathered in Canterbury.

The Anglican Consultative Council

The 1968 Lambeth Conference called for the setting up of an Anglican Consultative Council and the member-churches gave their approval. The Rt. Rev. John W. A. Howe, formerly Anglican Executive Officer, became the first -- and, to date, only -- Secretary General of the Council.

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The Council has met four times: Limuru, Kenya, in 1971; Dublin, Ireland, in 1973; Trinidad, West Indies, in 1976; and London, Ontario, Canada, in 1979. The fifth meeting of the Council will be in Newcastle, England, Sept. 7-19, 1981. The Council is a representative advisory body and has a total membership of about 60, composed of bishops, priests and lay persons. Each member-church has from one to three representatives, based on its membership. There may be six co-opted members, two of whom shall be women and two under 28 years of age.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is the President of the Council and is chairman of the first session of each meeting. John Denton of Sydney, Australia, is the current chairman. The Council supplies a continuity of consultation and guidance on policy which the Anglican Communion has previously lacked. Its functions relate particularly to communication, mission, inter-church relations and special studies.

The Primates Meeting

The Primates or heads of the member-churches of the Anglican Communion have set April 26 to May 2 at the College of Preachers, on the grounds of the Washington Cathedral, Washington, D.C., U.S.A., for their second meeting. The first such meeting took place at Ely, England, Nov. 26 to Dec. 1, 1979.

The regular meeting of the heads of the Provinces or member-churches of the Communion was suggested by the Primates' Committee which met during the 1978 Lambeth Conference at Canterbury. The Primates felt that meetings every two or three years would provide an opportunity for careful reflection on mutual concerns and issues and might enhance the cohesion, understanding and collaboration in the Anglican family and would offer an opportunity for mutual sharing of information among the churches. The Primates could propose subjects for the Anglican Consultative Council agenda and also plan for the implementation of Council recommendations.

Like the Lambeth Conference and the Anglican Consultative Council, the Primates' meeting has no legislative powers.

At present there are 28 communions whose Primates have been invited to the weeklong meeting. The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury and Primate of All England and Metropolitan, will preside at the meeting. (3) 4837 F

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B. Facts and Definitions

FACTS ABOUT THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

28 Provinces

404+ Dioceses

63.9 million persons who say they are Anglicans (47 million+ reported by Churches)

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Anglican Communion: Those churches which are in communion with each other and with the See of Canterbury (Church of England) and hold the same faith, order and worship. It is composed of 28 national or regional churches, together with a small group of extra-provincial dioceses and 64 million baptized members. There are Anglican congregations/jurisdictions in more than 100 different countries.

Archbishop: A bishop who presides over a province; a title, but not a separate order of the ministry. (The title is not used in the Episcopal Church.)

Archbishop of Canterbury: The spiritual leader of the Anglican Communion is the Archbishop of Canterbury, who is also Primate of All England and Metropolitan. The struggle for precedence between the archepiscopal sees of Canterbury (southern province) and York (northern province) ended in the middle of the 14th century with a victory for the former. The history of the See of Canterbury begins in 597 with the arrival of St. Augustine who established his first church in the city. The present Archbishop of Canterbury (enthroned in March 1980) is the Most Reverend and Right Honorable Robert A. K. Runcie.

<u>Bishop</u>: The third of the three orders of the ministry (along with deacon and priest); major functions are to preside over his diocese, consecrate to the episcopate, ordain to the ministry, administer confirmation, consecrate buildings and administer ecclesiastical discipline.

Book of Common Prayer: This is the title of the Prayer Book of the Anglican churches, so called because the prayers contained therein are for use in common as distinguished from a manual of private devotions.

Canon: A law of the Church set forth by an ecclesiastical Council, Convention or Synod (also: a clergyman who is connected with a cathedral either as a member of the chapter or as a member of the staff to assist the dean).

Deacon: The first order of the ministry; its institution is found in Acts 6:1-7. A deacon may assist a priest at the Holy Communion or Eucharist in the administration to the communicants but may not consecrate the elements.

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B. Facts and Definitions cont.

Diocese: The territorial limits of jurisdiction of a diocesan bishop.

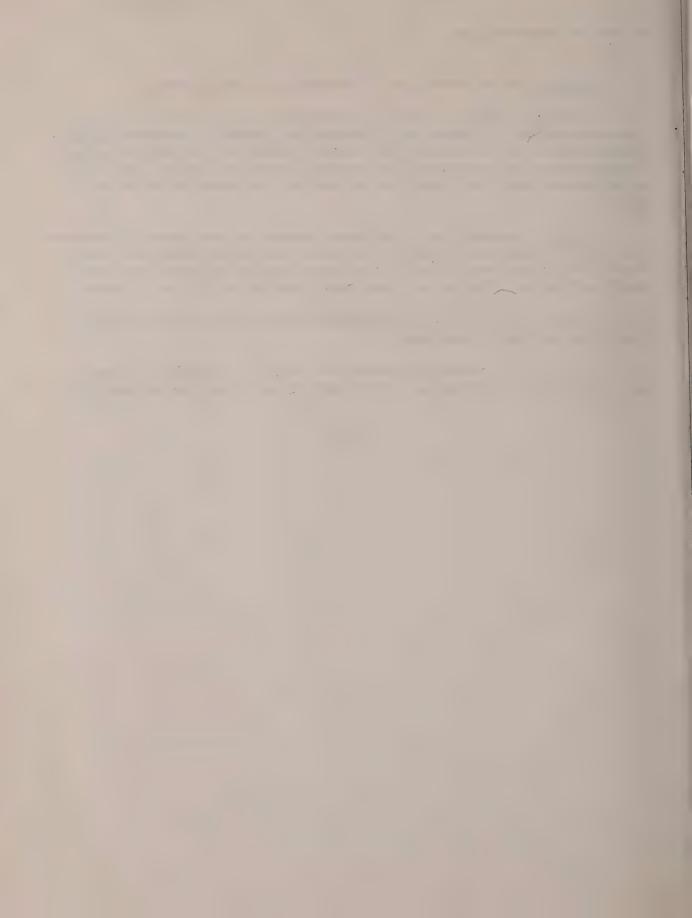
<u>Eucharist</u>: This term is from the Greek word for "giving of thanks" and refers to the service of Holy Communion or Lord's Supper as a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was ordained by Christ for a continual remembrance of the sacrifice of the death of Christ and of the benefits believers receive. Other names for the Eucharist are Divine Liturgy, the Holy Sacrifice, the Blessed Sacrament, and the Mass.

<u>Priest</u>: The second order of the sacred ministry, the word "priest" is a shortened form of the word "presbyter" or elder. A priest may offer the Holy Sacrifice in the Holy Eucharist and officiate at any of the other sacraments and services of the Prayer Book except confirmation, ordination and consecration, which are the functions of a bishop.

Primates: The heads of the 28 autonomous member-churches in the Anglican Communion; the "firsts among equals."

Province: 1) an autonomous church in the Anglican Communion; 2) a regional group of dioceses whose bishops and clerical and lay deputies meet in a provincial Synod.

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C. Provinces and Primates

PROVINCES AND PRIMATES OF THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

AUSTRALIA, The Church of England in
The Most Rev. Marcus Loane
Archbishop of Sydney
Metropolitan of the Province of New South Wales
Primate of the Church of England in Australia

BRAZIL, The Episcopal Church of (Igreja Episcopal do Brasil)
The Most Rev. A. R. Kratz
Bishop of Southern Brazil
Primate of the Igreja Episcopal do Brasil

BURMA, The Church of the Province of
The Most Rev. Gregory Hla Gyaw
Archbishop of Rangoon
Metropolitan of the Province of Burma

BURUNDI, RWANDA AND ZAIRE, The Church in the Province of The Most Rev. Bezaleri Ndahura Bishop of Bukavu Archbishop of Burundi, Rwandi and Zaire

CANADA, The Anglican Church of (Eglise Episcopale du Canada)
The Most Rev. Edward Walter Scott
Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada

CENTRAL AFRICA, The Church of the Province of The Most Rev. Khotso Makhulu Bishop of Botswana Archbishop of Central Africa

CHINA, The Holy Catholic Church in (Chung Hua Sheng Kung Hui)

The Rt. Rev. Peter Kwong

Bishop of Hong Kong and Macao (Temporarily separated from the Chung Hua

Sheng Kung Hui and associated with the Council of the Church of East Asia)

EAST ASIA, The Council of the Church of
The Rt. Rev. Basil Temengong
Bishop of Kuching (Borneo)
Representing the Council of the Church of East Asia

ENGLAND, The Church of
The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Robert Runcie
Archbishop of Canterbury
Primate of All England and Metropolitan



C. Provinces and Primates cont.

INDIAN OCEAN, The Church of the Province of the

The Most Rev. Trevor Huddleston

Bishop of Mauritius

Archbishop of the Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean

IRELAND, The Church of

The Most Rev. John Ward Armstrong

Archbishop of Armagh

Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan (Church of Ireland)

JAPAN, The Holy Catholic Church in (Nippon Sei Ko Kai)

The Most Rev. Titus Y. Nakamichi

Bishop of Kobe

Presiding Bishop of the Nippon Sei Ko Kai

JERUSALEM AND THE MIDDLE EAST, The Episcopal Church in

The Rt. Rev. Hassan Barnaba Dehgani-Tafti

Bishop of Iran

Bishop President of the Central Synod of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East

KENYA, The Church of the Province

The Most Rev. Manasses Kuria

Bishop of Nairobi

Archbishop of the Church of the Province of Kenya

MELANESIA. The Church of the Province of

The Most Rev. Norman K. Palmer

Bishop of Central Melanesia

Archbishop of the Province of Melanesia

NEW ZEALAND, The Church of the Province of

The Most Rev. Paul Reeves

Bishop of Auckland

Archbishop of the Church of the Province of New Zealand

NIGERIA, The Church of the Province of

The Most Rev. Timothy Olufosoye

Bishop of Ibadan

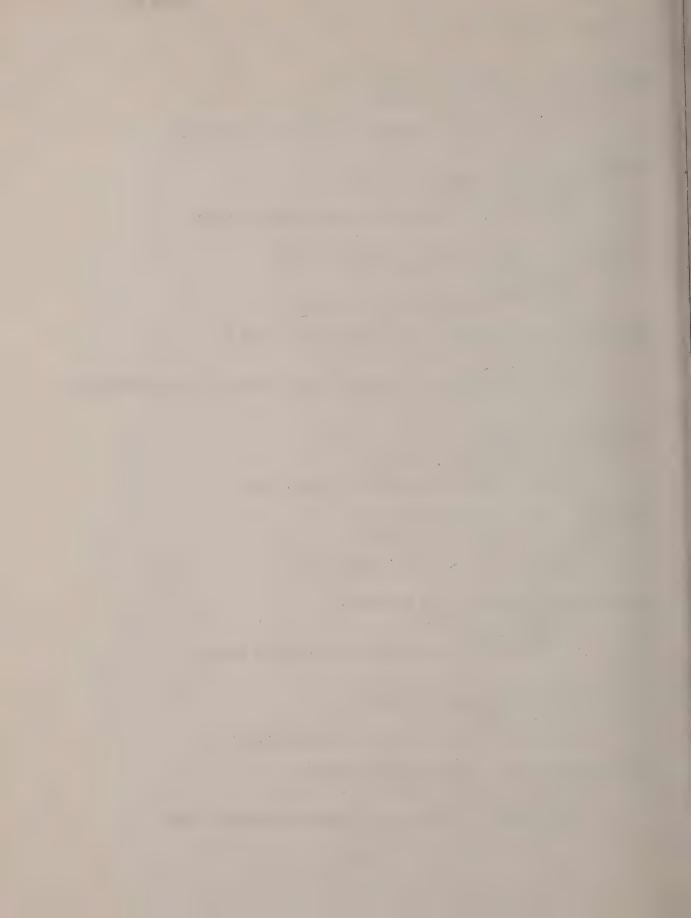
Archbishop of the Church of the Province of Nigeria

PAPUA NEW GUINEA, The Church of the Province of

The Most Rev. Geoffrey David Hand

Bishop of Port Moresby

Archbishop of the Church of the Province of Papua New Guinea



C. Provinces and Primates cont.

SCOTLAND, The Episcopal Church in

The Most Rev. Alastair I.M. Haggart

Bishop of Edinburgh

Primus of the Episcopal Church in Scotland

SOUTH AFRICA, The Church of the Province of
The Most Rev. Bill Bendyshe Burnett
Archbishop of Capetown and Metropolitan of the Church of the Province of
South Africa

SOUTH AMERICA, The Anglican Council of (Conseja Anglicano Sud Americano)
The Rt. Rev. Colin F. Bazley
Bishop of Chile and Bolivia
President of Conseja Anglicano Sud Americano (CASA)

SUDAN, The Province of
The Most Rev. Elinana J. Ngalamu
Bishop of Juba
Archbishop of the Sudan

TANZANIA, The Church in the Province of The Most Rev. Musa Kahurananga Bishop of Western Tanganyika Archbishop of Tanzania

UGANDA, The Church of
The Most Rev. Silvanus G. Wani
Bishop of Kampala
Archbishop of the Church of Uganda

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, The Protestant Episcopal Church in (The Episcopal Church)
The Rt. Rev. John Maury Allin
Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church

WALES, The Church in

The Most Rev. Gwilym Owen Williams

Bishop of Bangor

Archbishop of the Church in Wales

WEST AFRICA, The Church of the Province of
The Most Rev. Moses Nathaniel Christopher Scott
Bishop of Sierra Leone
Archbishop of the Church of the Province of West Africa

WEST INDIES, The Church in the Province of the
The Most Rev. George Cuthbert Manning Woodroffe
Bishop of the Windward Islands
Archbishop of the Church in the Province of the West Indies

D. Primates and Provinces

- ALLIN, The Rt. Rev. John Maury
 Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church (United States)
- ARMSTRONG, The Most Rev. John Ward

 Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan (Church of Ireland)
- BAZLEY, The Rt. Rev. Colin F.
 Bishop of Chile and Bolivia, President of Consejo Anglicano Sud Americano (CASA)
- BURNETT, The Most Rev. Bill Bendyshe

 Archbishop of Capetown and Metropolitan of the Church of the Province of South Africa
- DEHQANI-TAFTI, The Rt. Rev. Hassan Barnaba

 Bishop of Iran, Bishop President of the Central Synod of the Episcopal Church in

 Jerusalem and the Middle East
- HAGGART, The Most Rev. Alastair I.M.

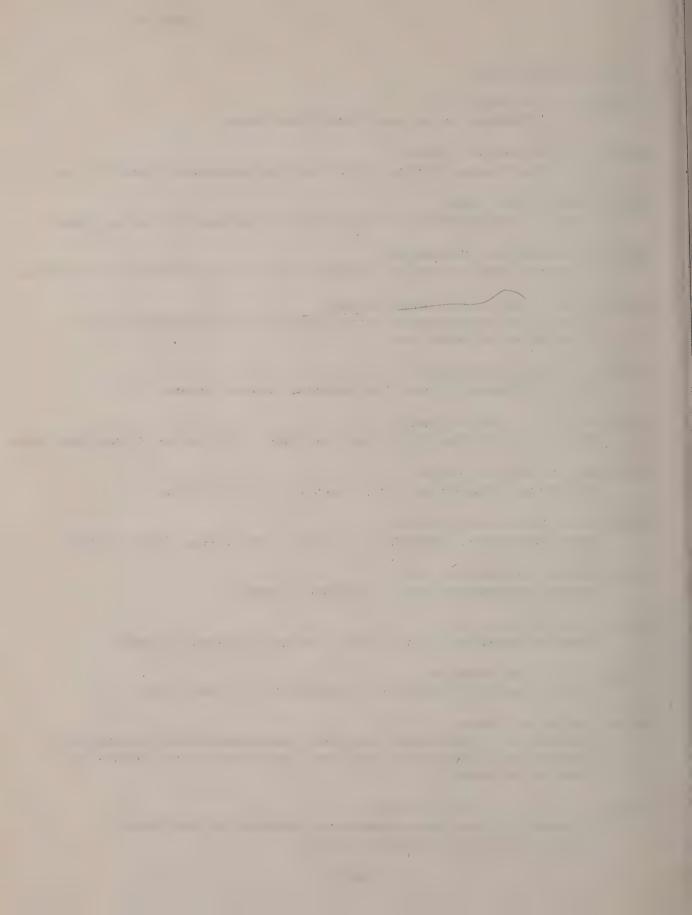
 Bishop of Edinburgh, Primus of the Episcopal Church in Scotland
- HAND, The Most Rev. Geoffrey David

 Bishop of Port Moresby, Archbishop of the Church of the Province of Papua New Guinea
- HLA GYAW, The Most Rev. Gregory

 Archbishop of Rangoon and Metropolitan of the Province of Burma
- HUDDLESTON, The Most Rev. Trevor
 Bishop of Mauritius, Archbishop of the Church in the Province of the Indian Ocean
- KAHURANANGA, The Most Rev. Musa
 Bishop of Western Tanganyika, Archbishop of Tanzania
- KRATZ, The Most Rev. A. R.

 Bishop of Southern Brazil and Primate of the Igreja Episcopal do Brasil
- KURIA, The Most Rev. Manasses

 Bishop of Nairobi, Archbishop of the Church of the Province of Kenya
- KWONG, The Rt. Rev. Peter
 Bishop of Hong Kong and Macao (Temporarily separated from the Chung Hua Sheng
 Kung Hui -- Holy Catholic Church in China -- and associated with Council of the
 Church of East Asia)
- LOANE, The Most Rev. Marcus Lawrence
 Archbishop of Sydney, Metropolitan of the Province of New South Wales,
 Primate of the Church of England in Australia



- D. Primates and Provinces Cont.
- MAKHULU, The Most Rev. Walter Khotso
 Bishop of Botswana, Archbishop of Central Africa
- NAKAMICHI, The Most Rev. Titus Y.

 Bishop of Kobe, Presiding Bishop of the Nippon Seikokai (Holy Catholic Church in Japan)
- NDAHURA, The Most Rev. Bezaleri
 Bishop of Bukavu, Archbishop of Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire
- NGALAMU, The Most Rev. Elinana J.
 Bishop of Juba, Archbishop of the Sudan
- OLUFOSOYE, The Most Rev. Timothy Bishop of Ibadan, Archbishop of Nigeria
- PALMER, The Most Rev. Norman K.

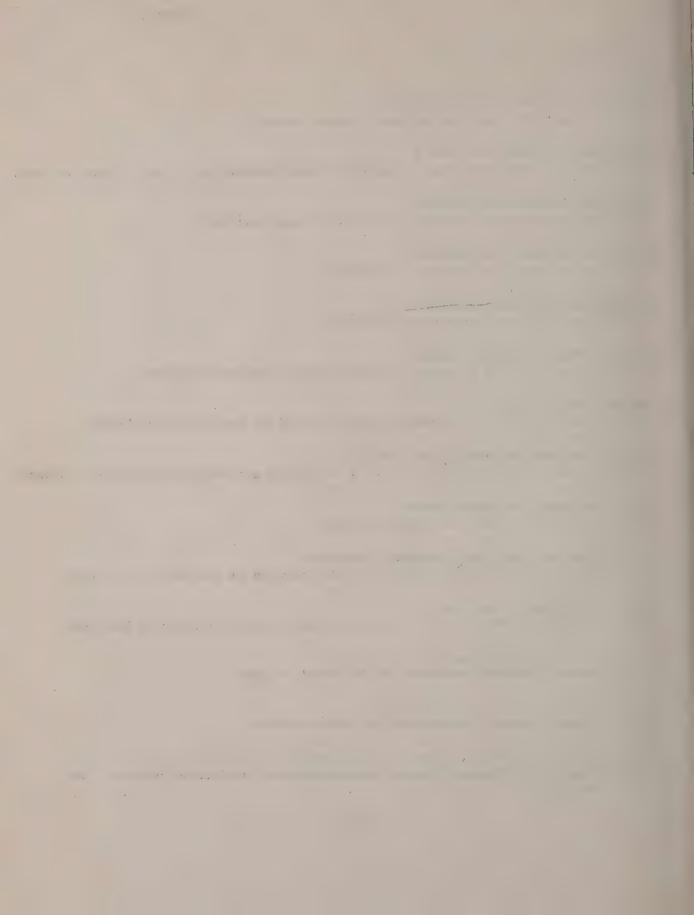
 Bishop of Central Melanesia, Archbishop of the Province of Melanesia
- REEVES, The Most Rev. Paul

 Bishop of Auckland, Archbishop of the Church of the Province of New Zealand
- RUNCIE, The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Robert A. K.

 Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of All England and Metropolitan (Church of England)
- SCOTT, The Most Rev. Edward Walter
 Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada
- SCOTT, The Most Rev. Moses Nathaniel Christopher
 Bishop of Sierra Leone, Archbishop of the Church of the Province of West Africa
- TEMENGONG, The Rt. Rev. Basil
 Bishop of Kuching (Borneo), representing the Council of the Church of East Asia
- WANI, The Most Rev. Silvanus G.
 Bishop of Kampala, Archbishop of the Church of Uganda
- WILLIAMS, The Most Rev. Gwilym Owen
 Bishop of Bangor, Archbishop of the Church in Wales
- WOODROFFE, The Most Rev. George Cuthbert Manning
 Bishop of the Windward Islands, Archbishop of the Church in the Province of the
 West Indies

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E. Biography of Archbishop Runcie

THE MOST REV. AND RT. HON ROBERT ALEXANDER KENNEDY RUNCIE

The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Robert A.K. Runcie was appointed 102nd Archbishop of Canterbury in September 1979 and took over as spiritual leader of the Anglican Communion in January 1980. His formal enthronement was on March 25, 1980 in Canterbury Cathedral.

Born Oct. 2, 1921, the son of a Scottish electrical engineer, he did not become an Anglican until he attended confirmation classes at his local church with a friend. He was the youngest of a family of four.

His father went blind when Robert was 15. He retired and the family had to move to a smaller house. Robert went to Merchant Taylors' school, Crosby where he became captain of cricket. He won a scholarship to Brasenose College, Oxford and spent a year there before joining the Scots Guards.

At Sandhurst he trained for the Guards Armoured Division. He became a tank officer in the Scots Guards, went to Normandy and moved with the Guards to the Baltic. He was awarded the Military Cross in 1945. When the war in Europe ended that year, he volunteered for the paratroops in Japan, but VJ Day arrived a few months later and instead he went to Trieste where he was personal assistant to the British Representative on the Italo/Yugoslavia Boundary Commission, trying to draw the line between Italy and Yugoslavia and Austria for the Paris Peace Conference.

After the war he went back to Oxford and graduated in 1948 and then went to Westcott House to read theology. It was during his final term at Oxford that he decided to train for ordination.

After studying at Westcott he went to Gosforth, Newcastle, a vast urban parish, where he was curate from 1950 to 1952.

He returned to teach at Westcott House and then moved to Trinity Hall in 1956 to be the dean. He taught the classics and church history. He married the senior fellow's daughter, who was a music student.

During the 1950s Robert Runcie was secretary to the Cambridge Mission in Delhi involved in recruiting candidates for teaching jobs in India. He went as Teape lecturer and toured India in the autumn of 1962.



E. Biography of Runcie cont.

From 1960 to 1970 he was principal of Cuddesdon College and vicar of the parish. It was there that he learned about rural communities. As a sideline he still keeps some Berkshire pedigree pigs.

In 1970 the Runcies moved to St. Albans -- where he was consecrated bishop -- with their son, James, and daughter, Rebecca. He served there until he became Arch-bishop of Canterbury in 1980.

His wife, Rosalind, is a professional musician who performs, teaches and writes as music critic for a local newspaper. His son is a university student at Cambridge and has written and produced his first play. His daughter is into her 'A' levels in school.

Archbishop Runcie is the first Archbishop of Canterbury to have been chosen by representatives of the Church of England rather than by the Prime Minister. His name was one of two forwarded to the Prime Minister by the Crown Appointments Commissions -- composed of representatives of the bishops, clergy and laity of the Church of England -- under the new procedure for the election of the Archbishop laid down about four years ago.

In accordance with constitutional practice, Archbishop Runcie was formally nominated by the Queen on the advice of the Prime Minister for election by the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury.

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F. Archbishop Runcie's Itinerary

ITINERARY OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY

April 22	Arrive Atlanta, Georgia
April 22-24	University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee (Receive honorary degree)
April 24-25	Christ Church Parish, Kent Island, Maryland (350th anniversary)
April 25-May 2	Washington, D.C. (Primates' Meeting)
May 2-4	San Francisco, California
May 4-6	Los Angeles, California
May 6-7	Ames, Iowa
May 7-9	Chicago, Illinois
May 9-12	New York, New York
May 12	Depart for London

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May 12	Depart for London

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